--- 1/20th Pound - “Series of 1886” - 4th BABN Contract (1886-1892) ---

--- *recess printed* in BLUE on *unwatermarked* medium weight wove paper ---

--- perforated 12 - 21 x 28 mm. - scanned at 200% scale ---

In 1885, the tax on “foreign leaf” cigarettes (in packages of 1/20th pound or more) was 20¢ per pound, while “domestic leaf” cigarettes were taxed at 5¢ per pound. At this time, the 1/20th pound package contained 20 cigarettes.

The catalogue lists **RC-92** as from 1886, and prior to **RC-101(L)**. I feel that this is incorrect. **RC-101(L)** is inscribed **“THREE POUNDS / PER M OR / UNDER”** (which logically follows from the “Series of 1880” Type III strip, which was inscribed with “**NOT MORE THAN 1/20 lb**”). I think that **RC-101(L)** is from 1886, and was recorded by John McKay as *lithographed* under the **3rd BABN Contract** - see below:

John McKay records that 217,752 *lithographed* copies of the “1-20, Blue, Square, Cigarettes” were ‘delivered’ under the **3rd BABN Contract** (1878-1886). The collection does not seem to include a *lithographed* copy of **RC-101(L)**.

John McKay records that 395,525 copies of the “1-20, Blue, Square, Cigarettes” were delivered as *recess printed* under the **3rd BABN Contract** (1878-1886). These are catalogued **RC-101**.

John McKay further records that 562,250 *recess printed* copies of this “1-20, Blue, Square, Cigarettes” were ‘delivered’ under the **4th BABN Contract** (1886-1892), and that another 100,000 *recess printed* hand press copies of “1/20th Blue Cigarettes” were ‘delivered under the **5th BABN Contract** (1892-1897). These were the residual copies of **RC-92** from the preceding contract.

★**RC-92** - 1/20th pound, blue, perforated 12, recess printed on *unwatermarked* medium wove

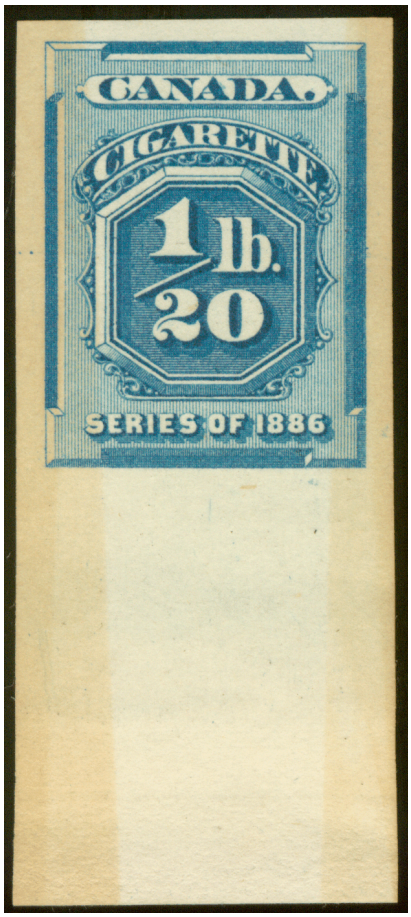
★**RC-92** - 1/20th pound, blue, perforated 12, recess printed on *unwatermarked* medium wove, rollered **7-87 / TOBACCO** in purple

★ **RC-92** - 1/20th pound, blue, perforated 12, recess printed on *unwatermarked* medium wove, stamped **3 - 88** in purple ink, from August 1888

--- *recess printed* BLUE Plate Proofs on light cardboard - 21 x 28 mm. - scanned at 200% scale ---

★**RC-92 PP** - 1/20th pound, blue, a *recess printed* plate proof on light cardboard

★**RC-92 PP / CP** - 1/20th pound, blue, a *recess printed* plate proof on light cardboard, stamped **CANCELLED** in 3 mm. Gothic



File path is [c:\ CR - STAMPS \ RC_STAMPS \ 1886-88 \ 1-20th blue],
In MS Word 2007 for Windows 7,
Formatted for a HP CP 1525 Laser Jet,
December 6th 2013, JBH